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SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
GENESIS OF A HERO
#3
– OF FOUR –
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG | 290
25th ANNIVERSARY
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

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Twenty-five years ago, a super-fast hero took the video game market—and the world—by storm! As Sonic the Hedgehog turns the big "Two-Five," we blast to the past for some Classic Adventures!

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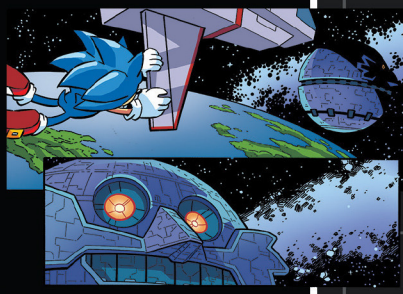

With Dr. Eggman's defeat and the apparent destruction of the Death Egg, the Kingdom of Acorn was saved! Sonic resumed his wandering ways, traveling the world and seeing its many marvels!

We join him now as he races towards Never Lake, and the rare wonder it hosts...

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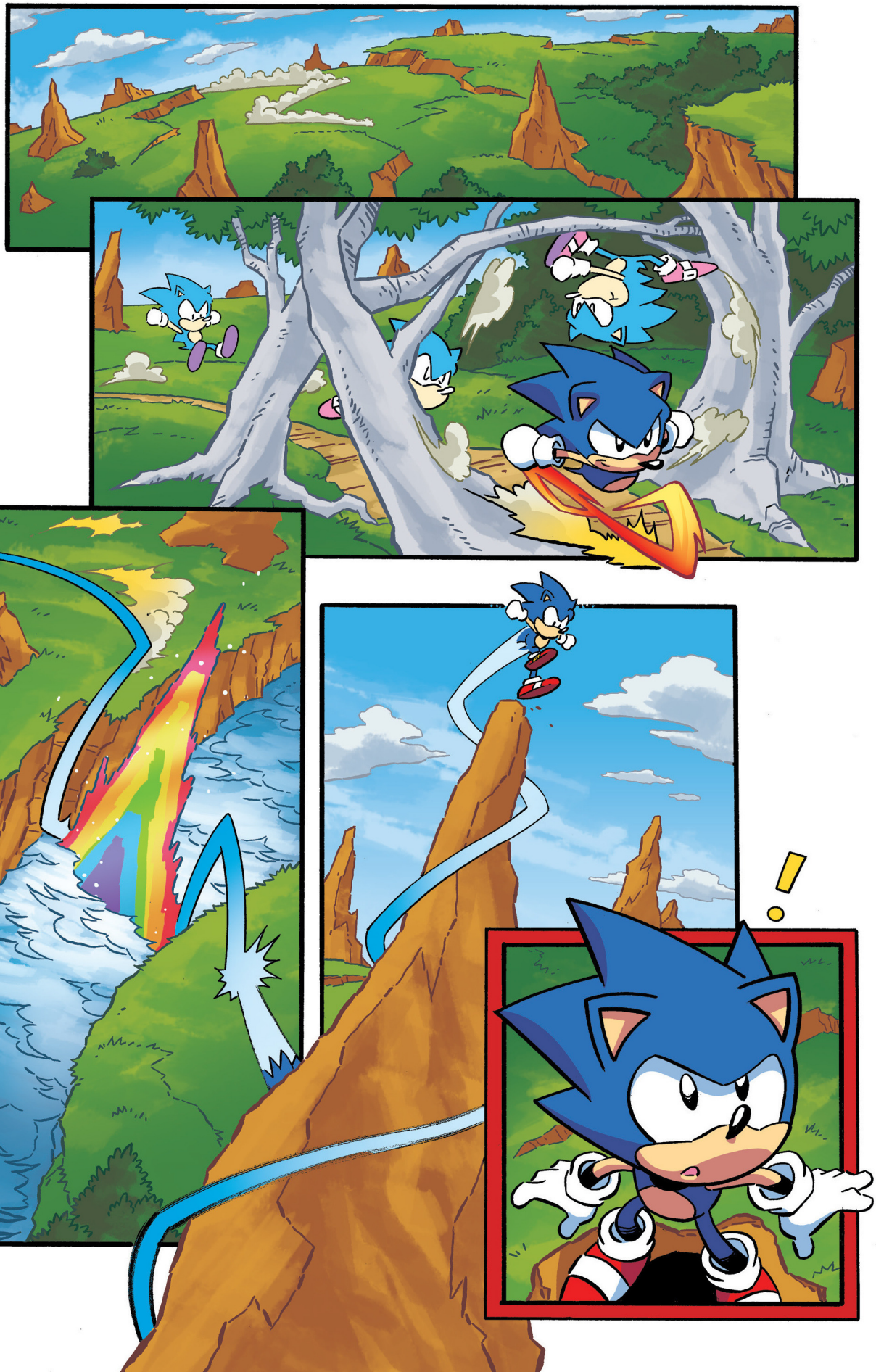

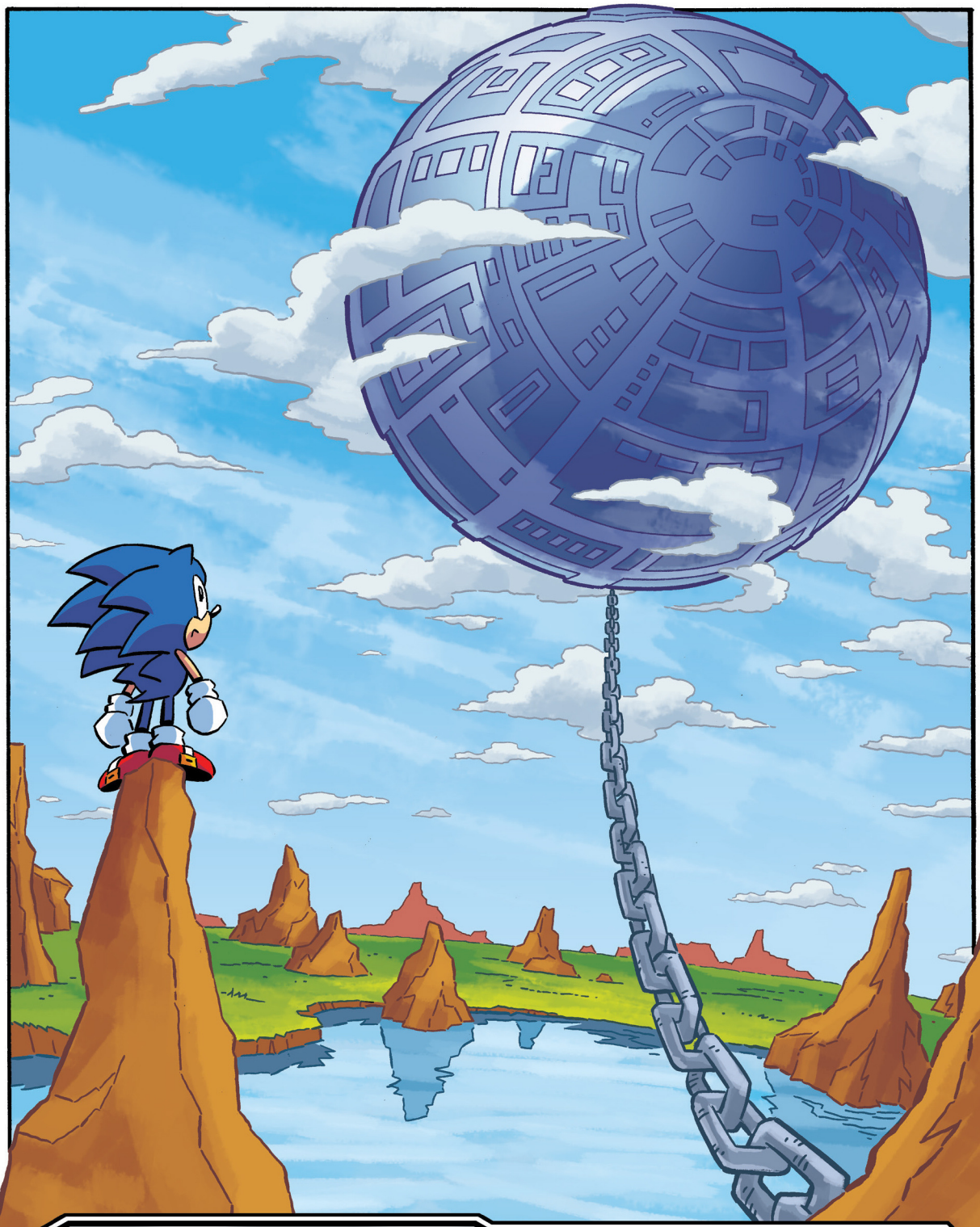

GENESIS OF A HERO

Part Three: SONIC'S CEASE & DESIST

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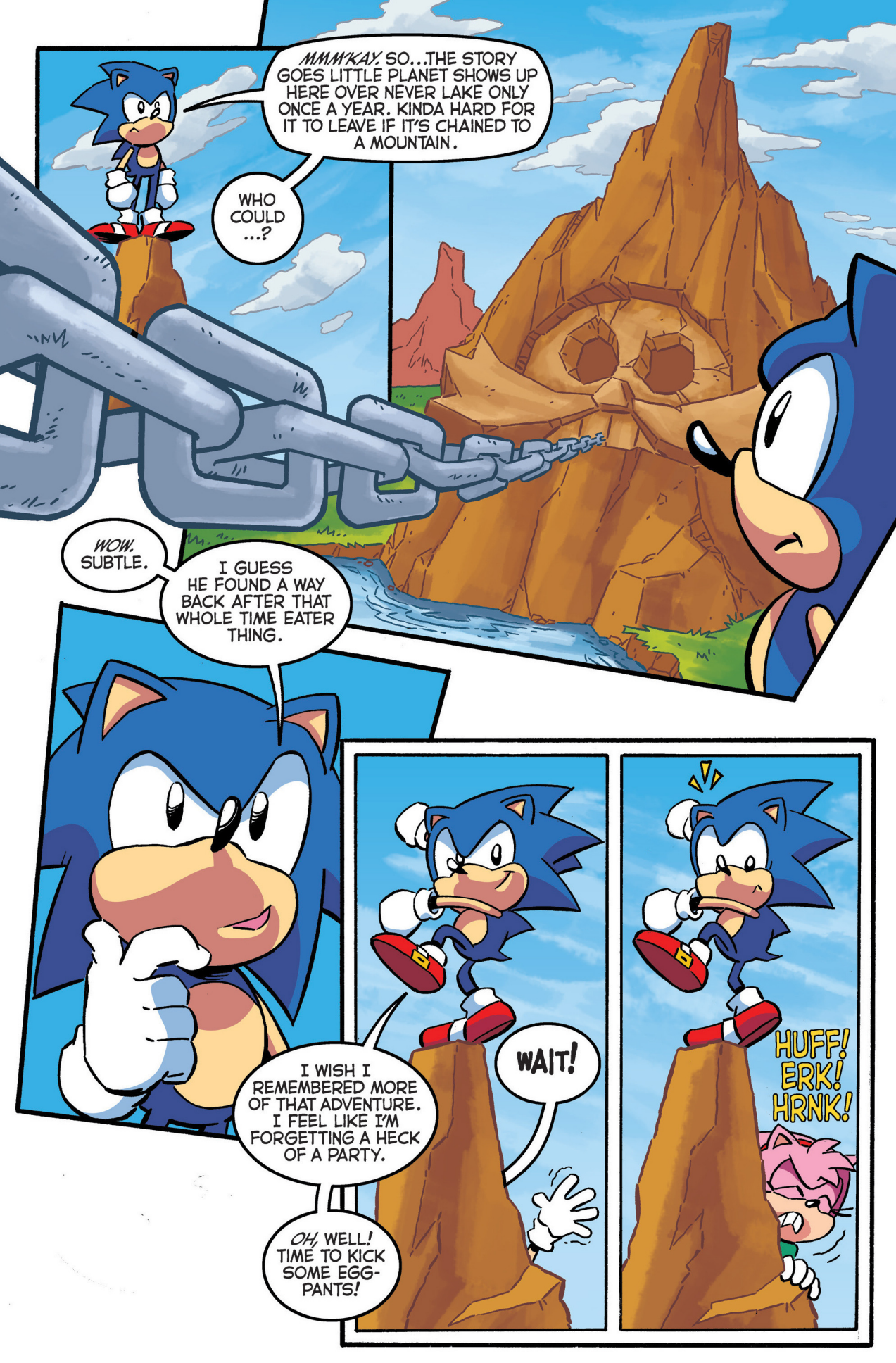
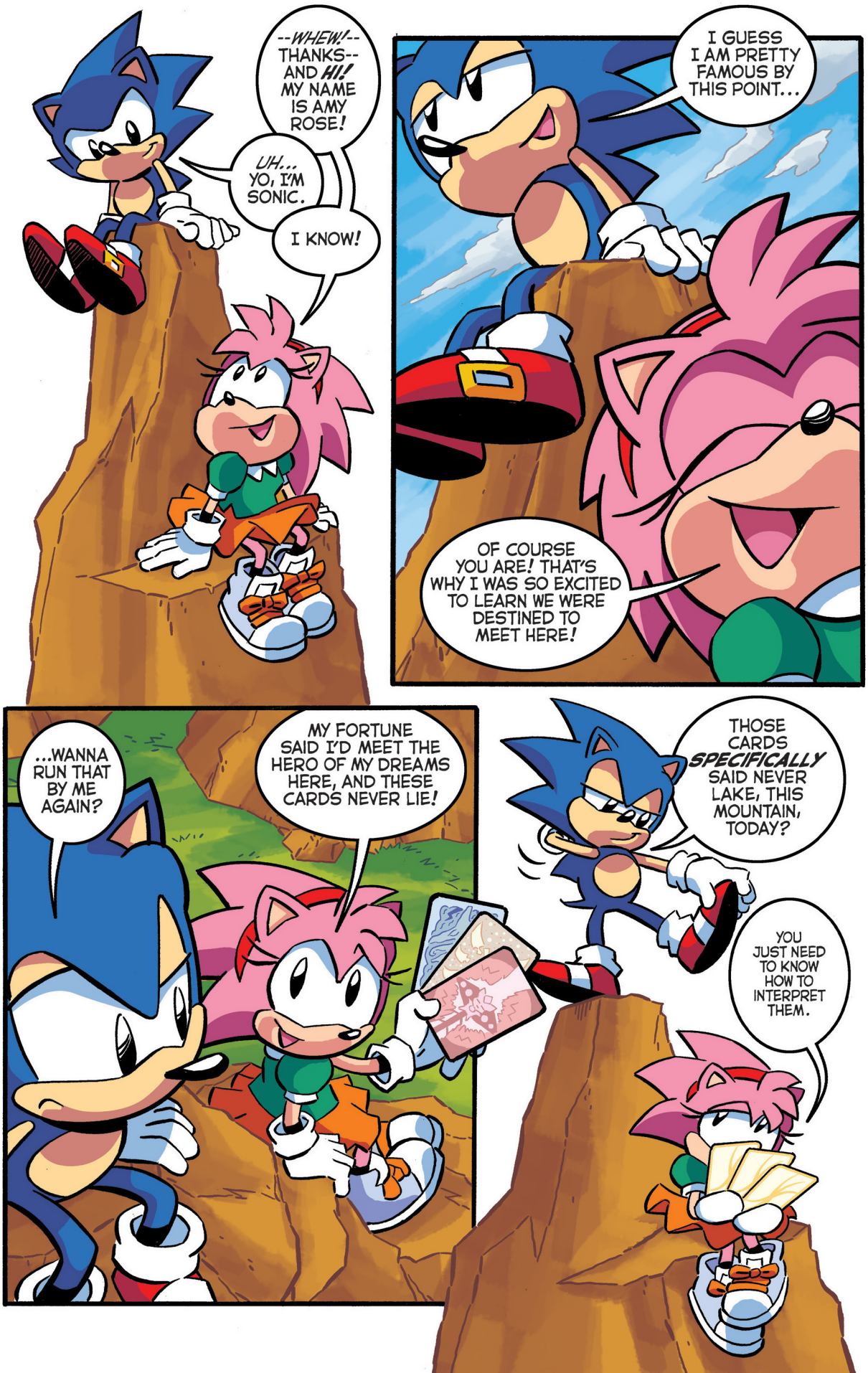
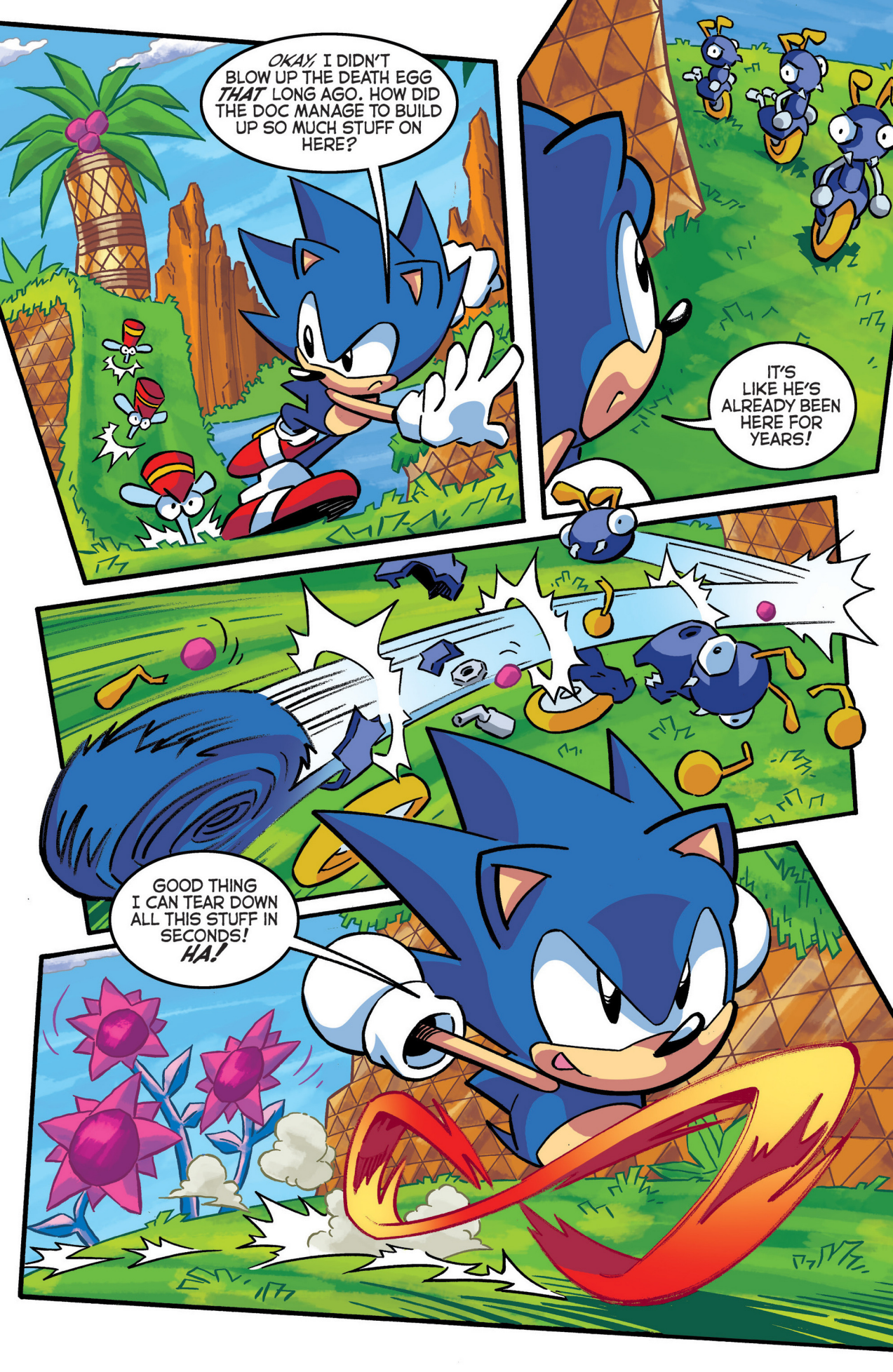
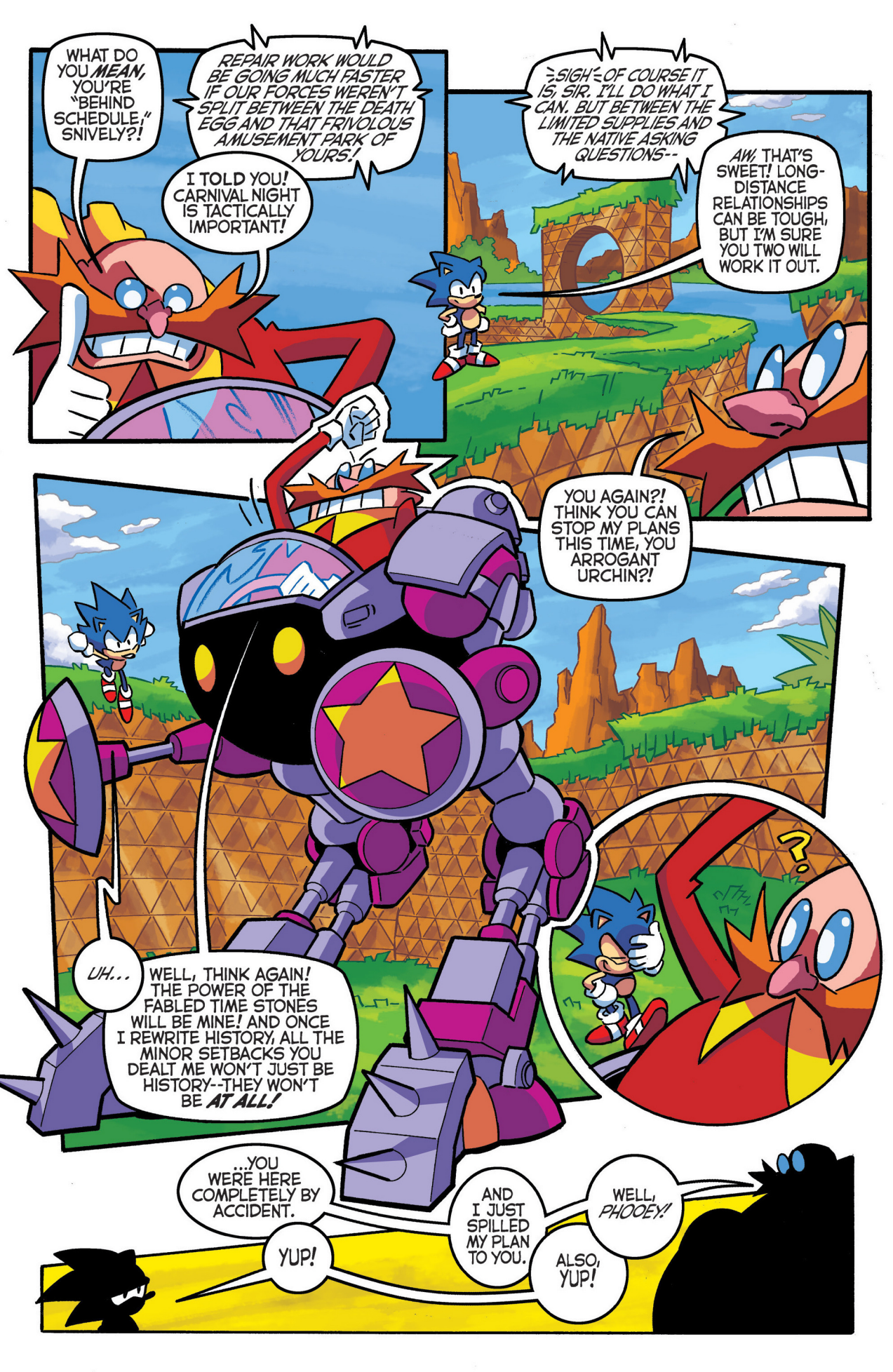
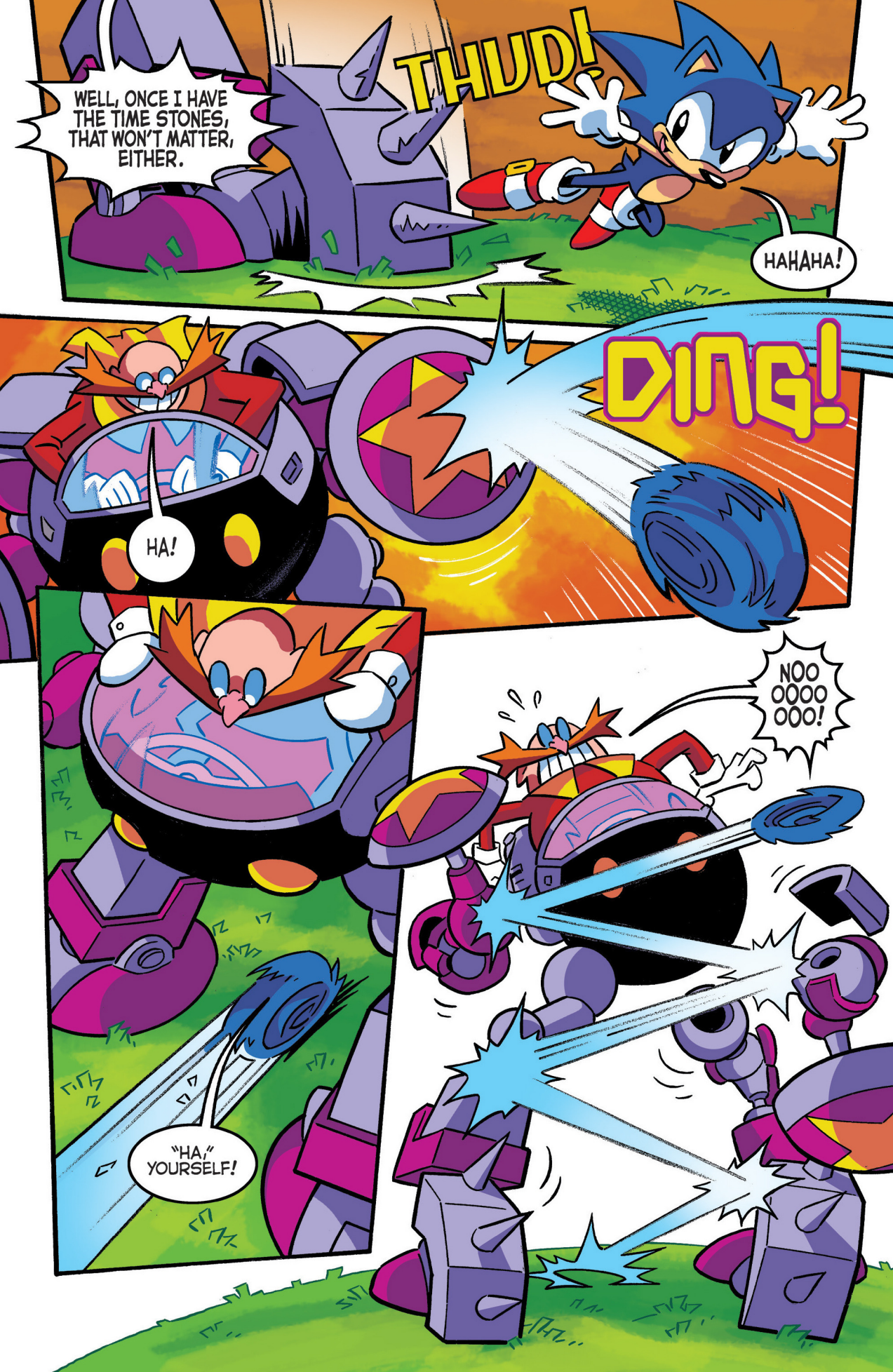

MMMKAY. SO...THE STORY GOES LITTLE PLANET SHOWS UP HERE OVER NEVER LAKE ONLY ONCE A YEAR. KINDA HARD FOR IT TO LEAVE IF IT'S CHAINED TO A MOUNTAIN.
WHO COULD ...?
WOW. SUBTLE.
I GUESS HE FOUND A WAY BACK AFTER THAT WHOLE TIME EATER THING.
I WISH I REMEMBERED MORE OF THAT ADVENTURE. I FEEL LIKE I'M FORGETTING A HECK OF A PARTY.
OH, WELL! TIME TO KICK SOME EGG-PANTS!
WAIT!
HUFF! ERK! HRNK!

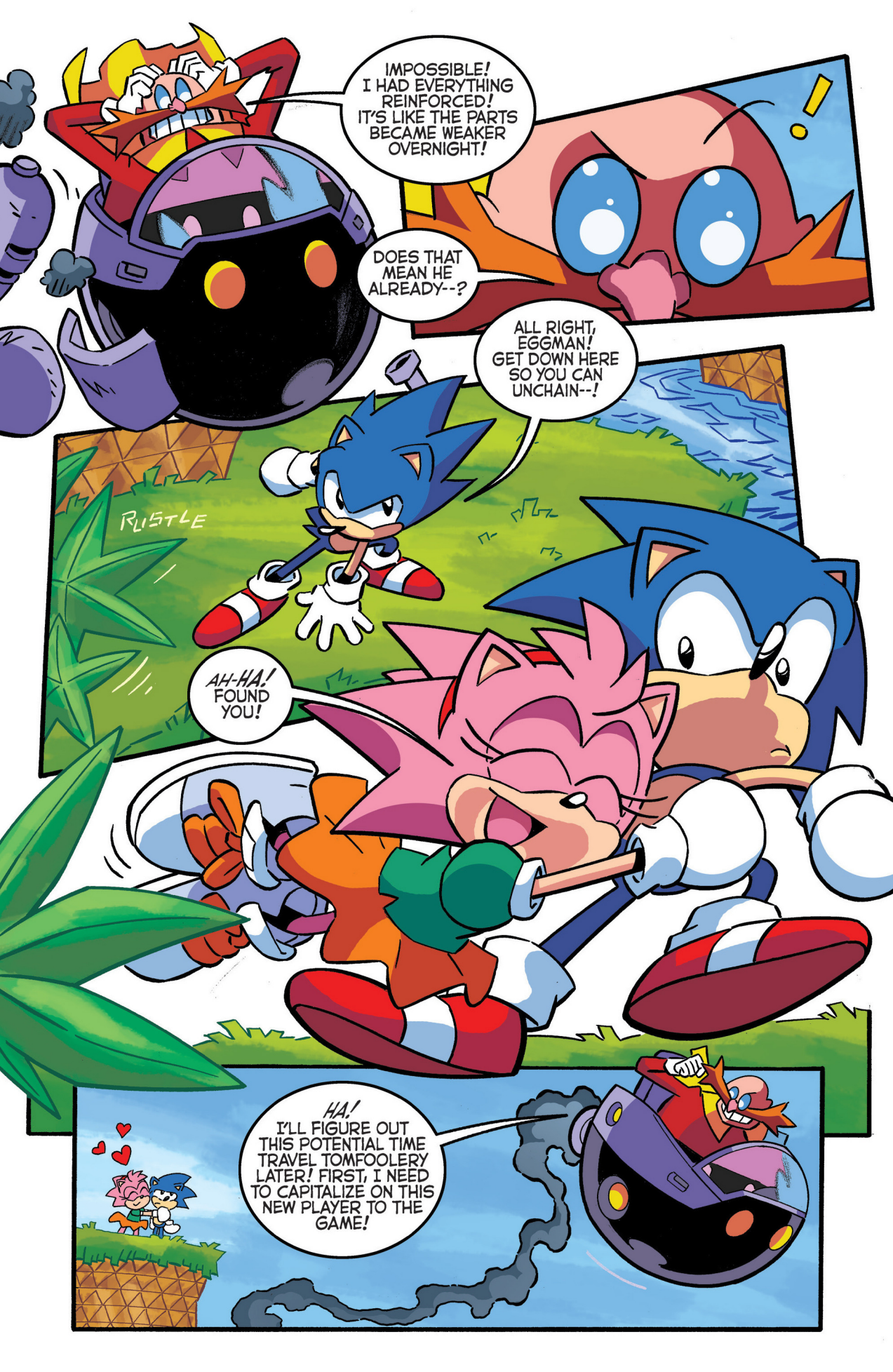

--WHEW!-- THANKS-- AND HI! MY NAME IS AMY ROSE!
UH... YO, I'M SONIC.
I KNOW!
I GUESS I AM PRETTY FAMOUS BY THIS POINT...
OF COURSE YOU ARE! THAT'S WHY I WAS SO EXCITED TO LEARN WE WERE DESTINED TO MEET HERE!
...WANNA RUN THAT BY ME AGAIN?
MY FORTUNE SAID I'D MEET THE HERO OF MY DREAMS HERE, AND THESE CARDS NEVER LIE!
THOSE CARDS SPECIFICALLY SAID NEVER LAKE, THIS MOUNTAIN, TODAY?
YOU JUST NEED TO KNOW HOW TO INTERPRET THEM.

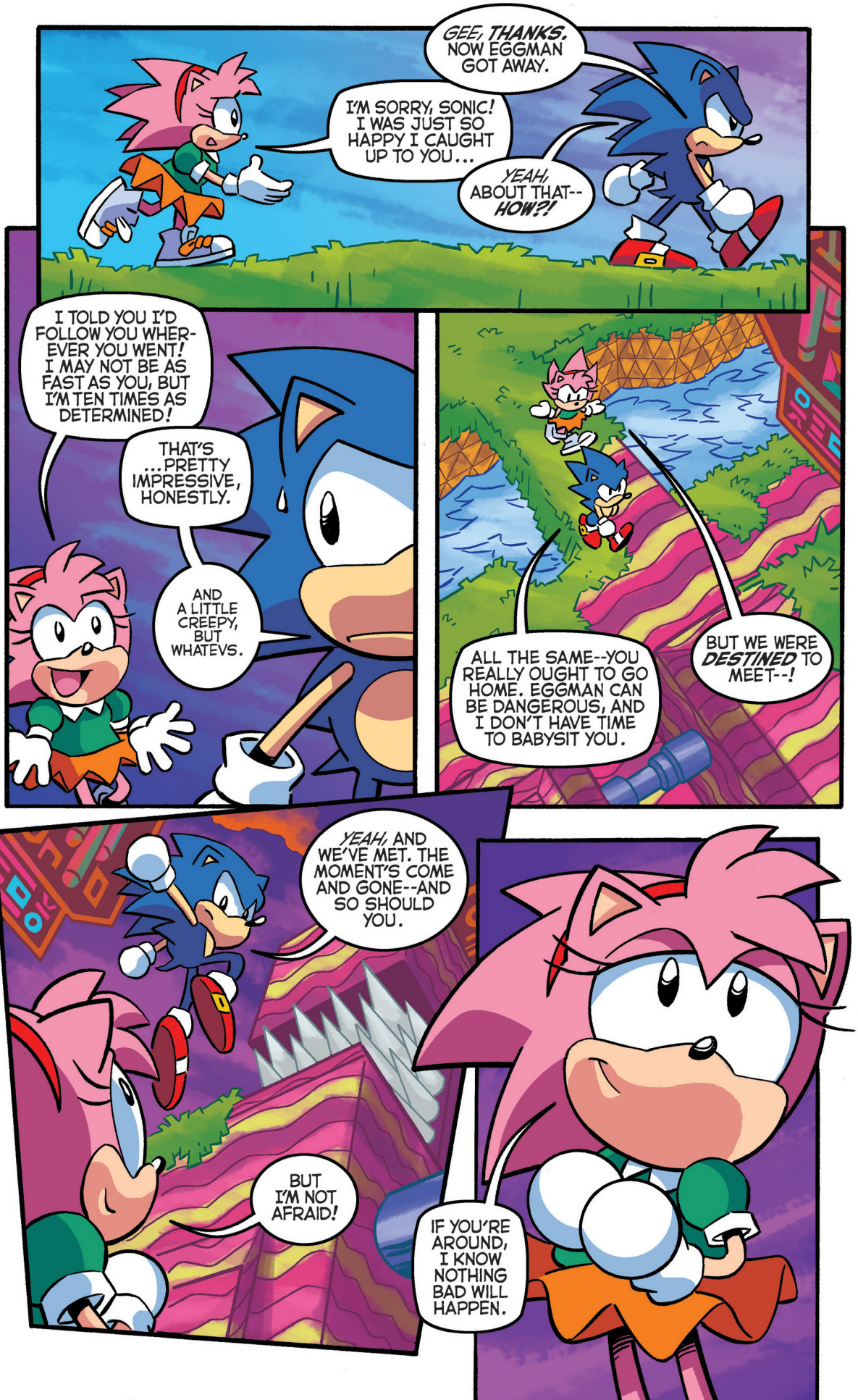
SO NOW THAT WE'VE MET, MY DESTINED HERO...
YEAH, YOU CAN QUIT CALLING ME THAT.
I PROMISE TO FOLLOW YOU WHEREVER YOU GO!
REALLY? ANYWHERE?
EEE-HEE-HEE! YES!
COOL! SEE YOU AT THE TOP!
!
...WAIT, WHAT?

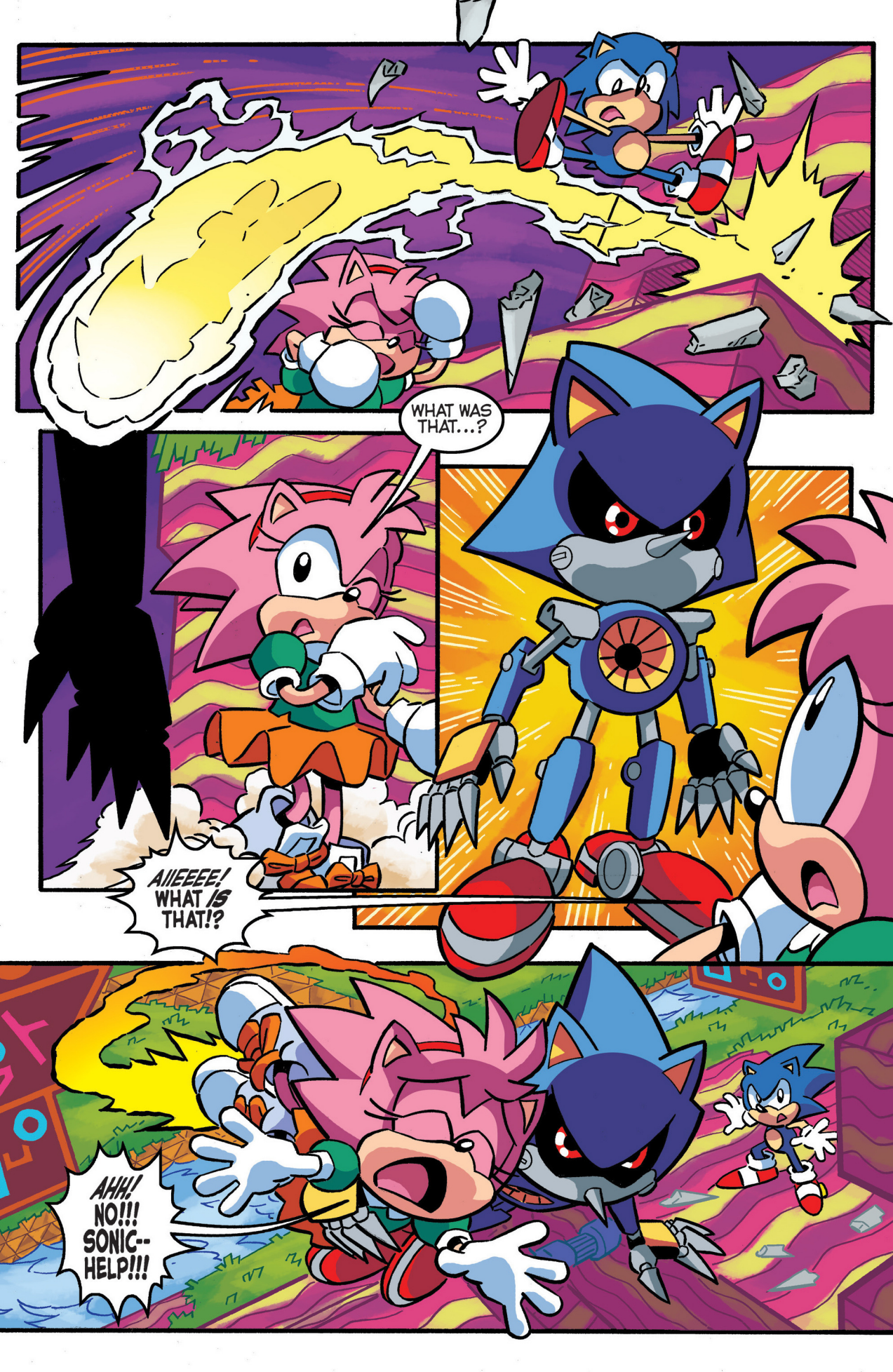

OKAY, I DIDN'T BLOW UP THE DEATH EGG THAT LONG AGO. HOW DID THE DOC MANAGE TO BUILD UP SO MUCH STUFF ON HERE?
IT'S LIKE HE'S ALREADY BEEN HERE FOR YEARS!
GOOD THING I CAN TEAR DOWN ALL THIS STUFF IN SECONDS! HA!

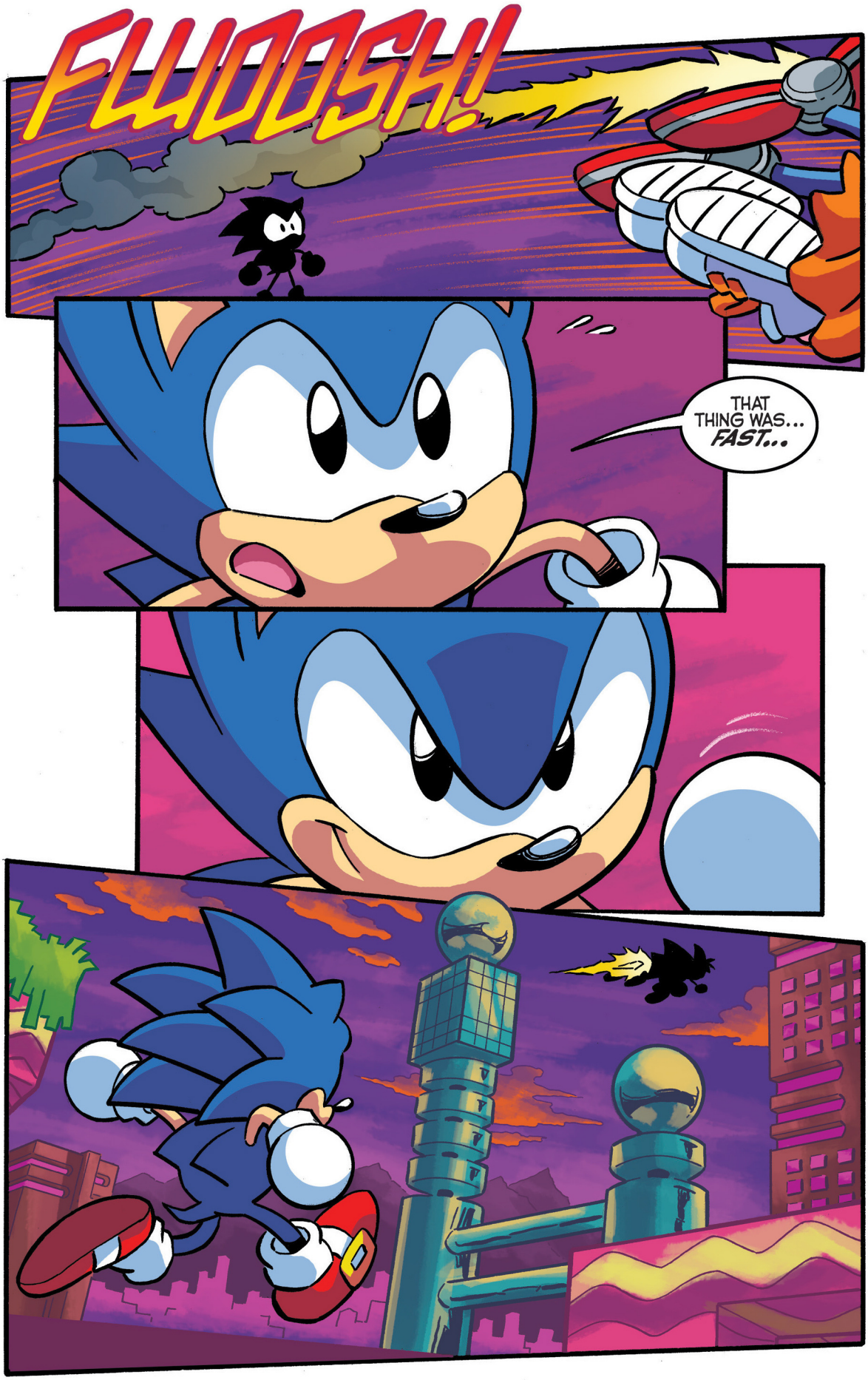

WHAT DO YOU *MEAN*, YOU'RE "BEHIND SCHEDULE," SNIVELY?!
REPAIR WORK WOULD BE GOING MUCH FASTER IF OUR FORCES WEREN'T SPLIT BETWEEN THE DEATH EGG AND THAT FRIVOLOUS AMUSEMENT PARK OF YOURS!
I TOLD YOU! CARNIVAL NIGHT IS TACTICALLY IMPORTANT!
SIGH OF COURSE IT IS, SIR. I'LL DO WHAT I CAN. BUT BETWEEN THE LIMITED SUPPLIES AND THE NATIVE ASKING QUESTIONS--
AW, THAT'S SWEET! LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS CAN BE TOUGH, BUT I'M SURE YOU TWO WILL WORK IT OUT.
YOU AGAIN?! THINK YOU CAN STOP MY PLANS THIS TIME, YOU ARROGANT URCHIN?!
?
UH...
WELL, THINK AGAIN! THE POWER OF THE FABLED TIME STONES WILL BE MINE! AND ONCE I REWRITE HISTORY, ALL THE MINOR SETBACKS YOU DEALT ME WON'T JUST BE HISTORY--THEY WON'T BE ***AT ALL!***
...YOU WERE HERE COMPLETELY BY ACCIDENT.
YUP!
AND I JUST SPILLED MY PLAN TO YOU.
ALSO, YUP!
WELL, *PHOOEY!*

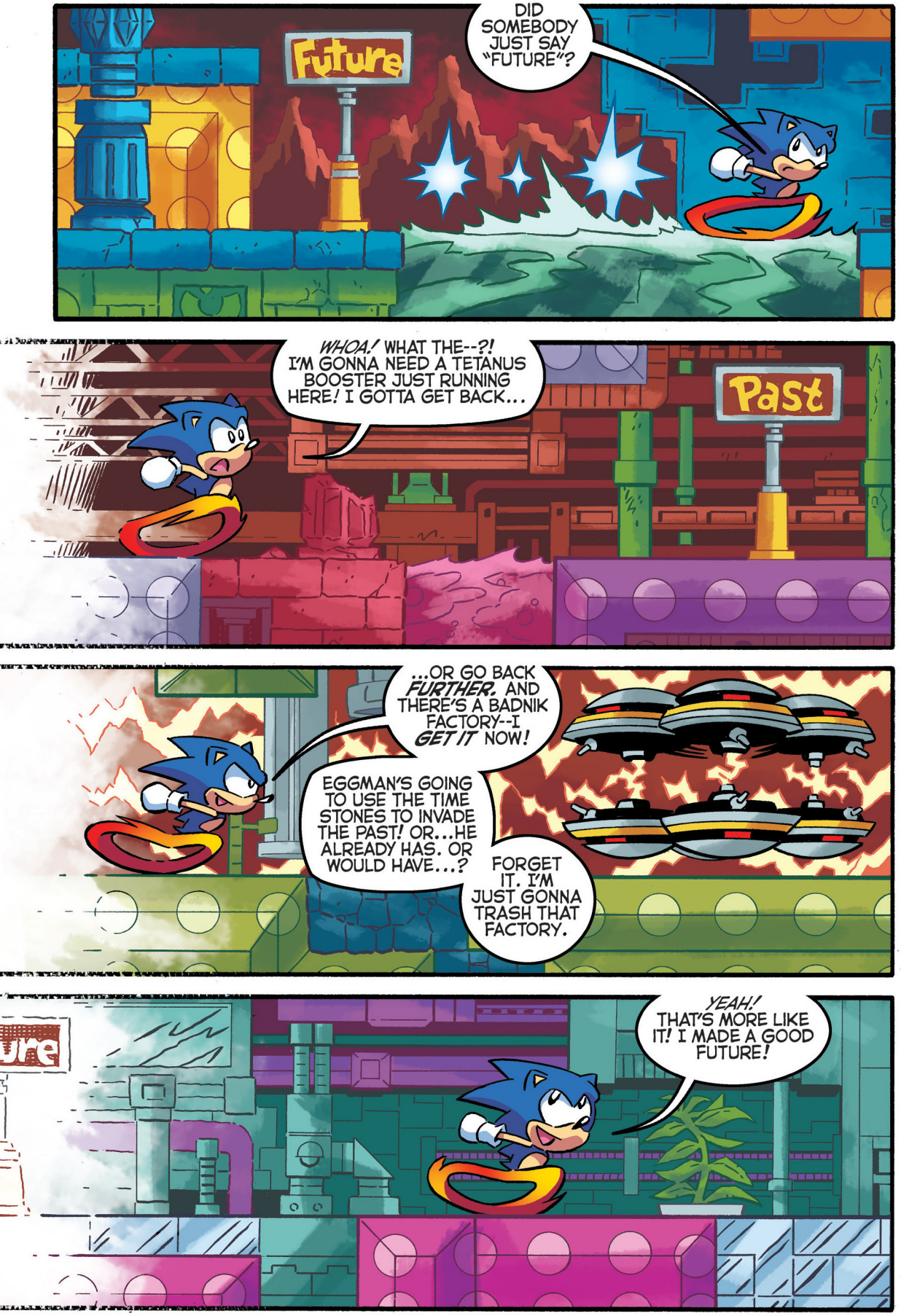

WELL, ONCE I HAVE THE TIME STONES, THAT WON'T MATTER, EITHER.
THUD!
HAHAHA!
DING!
HA!
NOO OOOO OOO!
"HA," YOURSELF!


IMPOSSIBLE! I HAD EVERYTHING REINFORCED! IT'S LIKE THE PARTS BECAME WEAKER OVERNIGHT!
!
DOES THAT MEAN HE ALREADY--?
ALL RIGHT, EGGMAN! GET DOWN HERE SO YOU CAN UNCHAIN--!
RUSTLE
AH-HA! FOUND YOU!
HA! I'LL FIGURE OUT THIS POTENTIAL TIME TRAVEL TOMFOOLERY LATER! FIRST, I NEED TO CAPITALIZE ON THIS NEW PLAYER TO THE GAME!

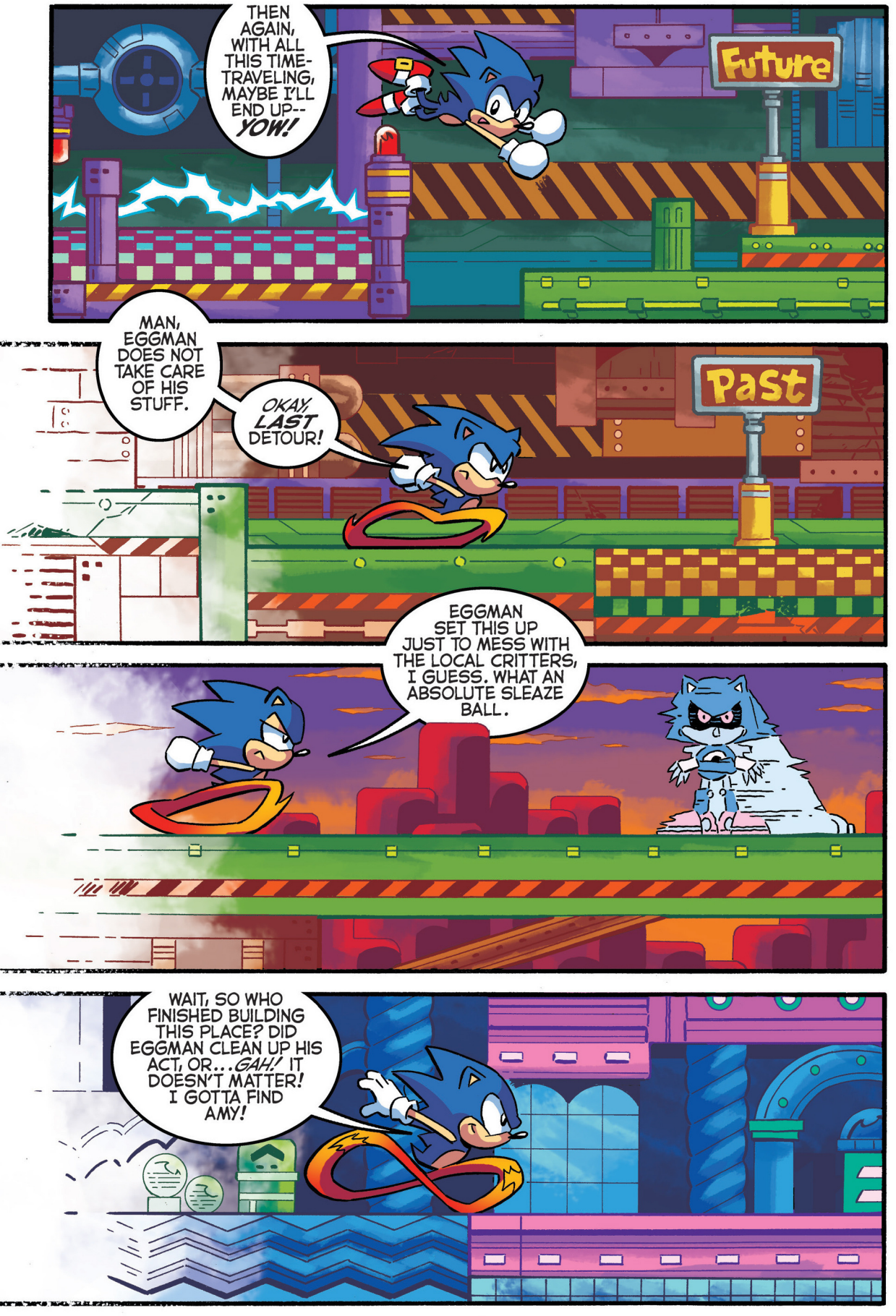

GEE, THANKS. NOW EGGMAN GOT AWAY.
I'M SORRY, SONIC! I WAS JUST SO HAPPY I CAUGHT UP TO YOU...
YEAH, ABOUT THAT-- HOW?!
I TOLD YOU I'D FOLLOW YOU WHEREVER YOU WENT! I MAY NOT BE AS FAST AS YOU, BUT I'M TEN TIMES AS DETERMINED!
THAT'S ...PRETTY IMPRESSIVE, HONESTLY.
AND A LITTLE CREEPY, BUT WHATEVS.
ALL THE SAME--YOU REALLY OUGHT TO GO HOME. EGGMAN CAN BE DANGEROUS, AND I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BABYSIT YOU.
BUT WE WERE DESTINED TO MEET--!
YEAH, AND WE'VE MET. THE MOMENT'S COME AND GONE--AND SO SHOULD YOU.
BUT I'M NOT AFRAID!
IF YOU'RE AROUND, I KNOW NOTHING BAD WILL HAPPEN.

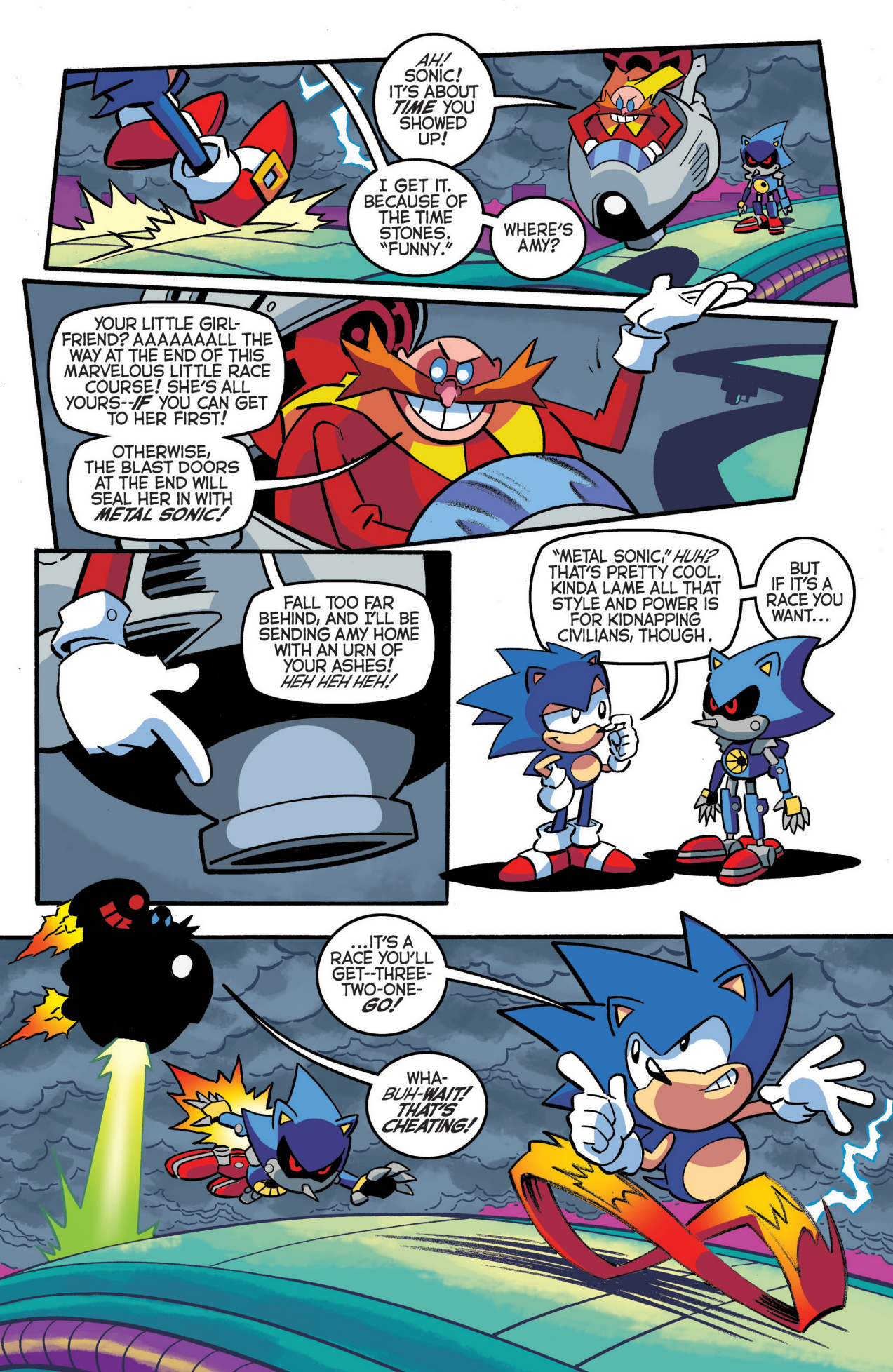

WHAT WAS THAT...?
AIIEEEE! WHAT IS THAT!?
AHH! NO!!! SONIC-- HELP!!!


FLUOOSH!
THAT THING WAS... FAST...

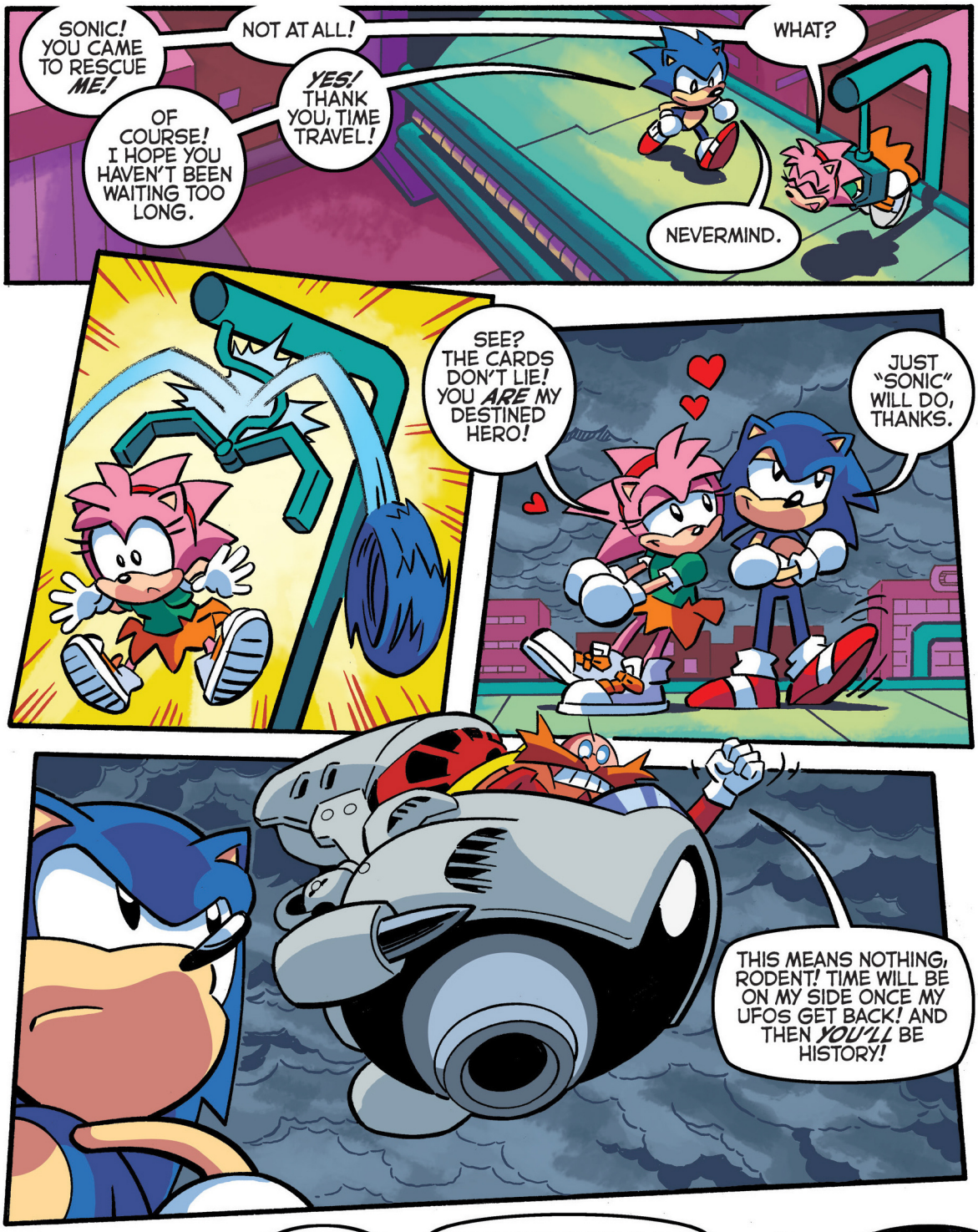

Future
DID SOMEBODY JUST SAY "FUTURE"?
WHOA! WHAT THE--?! I'M GONNA NEED A TETANUS BOOSTER JUST RUNNING HERE! I GOTTA GET BACK...
Past
...OR GO BACK FURTHER. AND THERE'S A BADNIK FACTORY--I GET IT NOW!
EGGMAN'S GOING TO USE THE TIME STONES TO INVADE THE PAST! OR...HE ALREADY HAS. OR WOULD HAVE...?
FORGET IT. I'M JUST GONNA TRASH THAT FACTORY.
YEAH! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! I MADE A GOOD FUTURE!

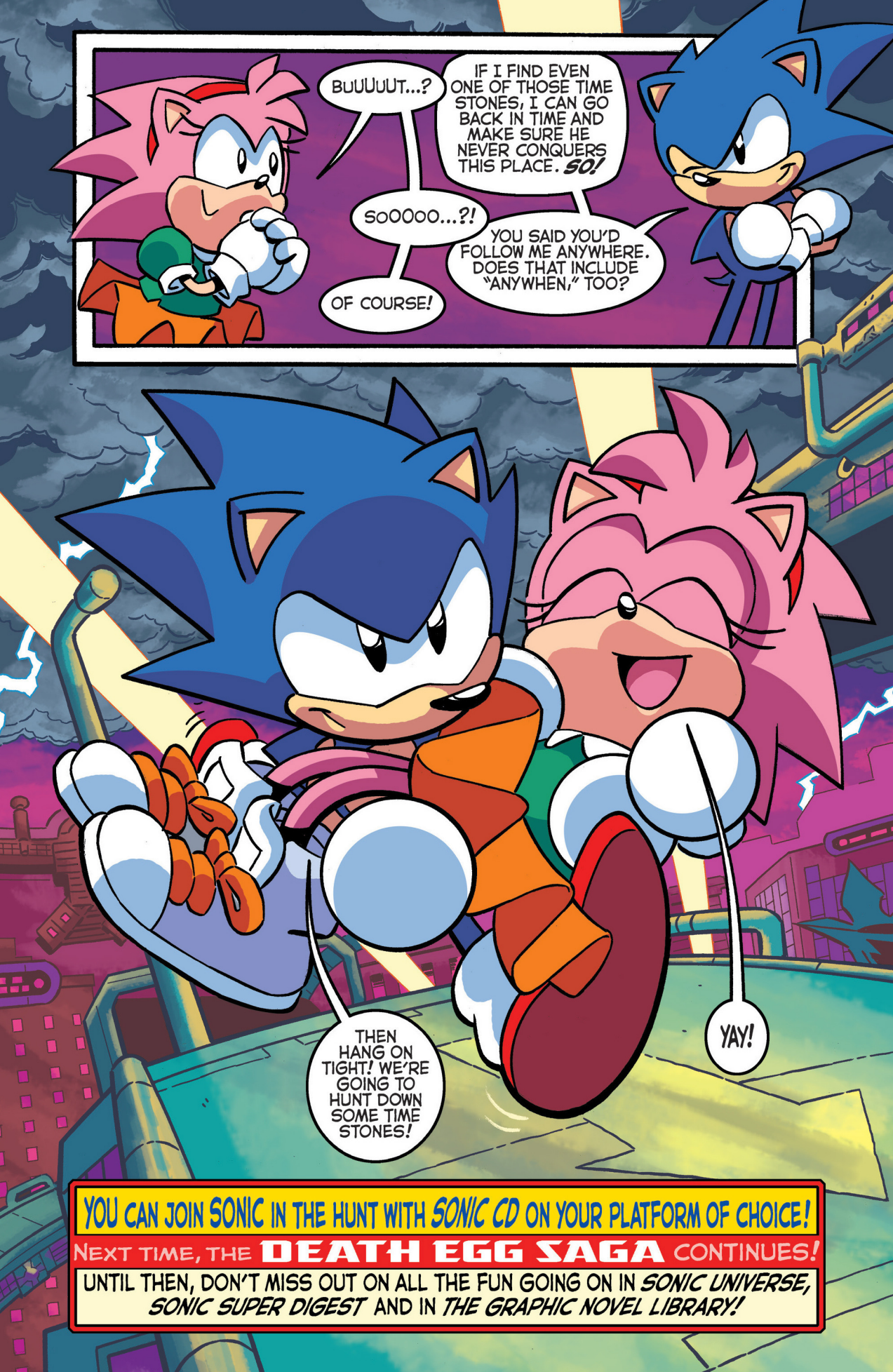
OKAY, BACK TO FINDING AMY. I MEAN, THIS PLACE SHOULD BE FINE LATER ...RIGHT?
Future
EH... BETTER CHECK.
NOPE. THIS IS NOT AN IMPROVEMENT. QUICK DETOUR, THEN...
Past
THERE WE GO!
MUCH BETTER! NOW, THEN-- I'VE KEPT AMY WAITING LONG ENOUGH!


THEN AGAIN, WITH ALL THIS TIME-TRAVELING, MAYBE I'LL END UP-- YOW!
Future
MAN, EGGMAN DOES NOT TAKE CARE OF HIS STUFF.
OKAY, LAST DETOUR!
Past
EGGMAN SET THIS UP JUST TO MESS WITH THE LOCAL CRITTERS, I GUESS. WHAT AN ABSOLUTE SLEAZE BALL.
WAIT, SO WHO FINISHED BUILDING THIS PLACE? DID EGGMAN CLEAN UP HIS ACT, OR... GAH! IT DOESN'T MATTER! I GOTTA FIND AMY!


AH! SONIC! IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU SHOWED UP!
I GET IT. BECAUSE OF THE TIME STONES. "FUNNY."
WHERE'S AMY?
YOUR LITTLE GIRL-FRIEND? AAAAAAALL THE WAY AT THE END OF THIS MARVELOUS LITTLE RACE COURSE! SHE'S ALL YOURS--IF YOU CAN GET TO HER FIRST!
OTHERWISE, THE BLAST DOORS AT THE END WILL SEAL HER IN WITH METAL SONIC!
FALL TOO FAR BEHIND, AND I'LL BE SENDING AMY HOME WITH AN URN OF YOUR ASHES! HEH HEH HEH!
"METAL SONIC," HUH? THAT'S PRETTY COOL. KINDA LAME ALL THAT STYLE AND POWER IS FOR KIDNAPPING CIVILIANS, THOUGH.
BUT IF IT'S A RACE YOU WANT...
...IT'S A RACE YOU'LL GET--THREE-TWO-ONE-GO!
WHA- BUH-WAIT! THAT'S CHEATING!

YOU'VE GOT NO ROOM TO TALK, YA KIDNAPPING CREEP!


SONIC! YOU CAME TO RESCUE ME!
NOT AT ALL!
YES! THANK YOU, TIME TRAVEL!
OF COURSE! I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN WAITING TOO LONG.
WHAT?
NEVERMIND.
SEE? THE CARDS DON'T LIE! YOU ARE MY DESTINED HERO!
JUST "SONIC" WILL DO, THANKS.
THIS MEANS NOTHING, RODENT! TIME WILL BE ON MY SIDE ONCE MY UFOS GET BACK! AND THEN YOU'LL BE HISTORY!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE HE'S TRYING TO BE CLEVER. WHAT DOES HE MEAN?
APPARENTLY, THERE ARE THINGS HERE CALLED "TIME STONES" THAT LET YOU TIME TRAVEL. I'VE RUN INTO SOME SIGN POSTS THAT RUN ON THEIR POWER.
EGGMAN'S BEEN USING THEM TO INVADE THE PAST, BUT...


BUUUUUT...?
IF I FIND EVEN ONE OF THOSE TIME STONES, I CAN GO BACK IN TIME AND MAKE SURE HE NEVER CONQUERS THIS PLACE. SO!
SOOOOO...?!
YOU SAID YOU'D FOLLOW ME ANYWHERE. DOES THAT INCLUDE "ANYWHEN," TOO?
OF COURSE!
THEN HANG ON TIGHT! WE'RE GOING TO HUNT DOWN SOME TIME STONES!
YAY!
YOU CAN JOIN SONIC IN THE HUNT WITH SONIC CD ON YOUR PLATFORM OF CHOICE!
NEXT TIME, THE DEATH EGG SAGA CONTINUES!
UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN GOING ON IN SONIC UNIVERSE, SONIC SUPER DIGEST AND IN THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

Letter from the EDITOR

Editorial commentary that keeps you running faster and saves the planet from disaster!

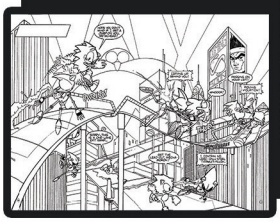
TIME AFTER TIME

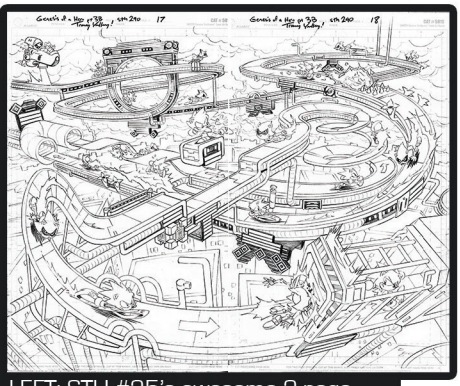
Hey-ho, Sonic fans! If you're a long-time reader or super collector, you may have noticed something familiar about this issue. But what could it be? Lets see... we have Amy Rose, Little Planet, time travel and Metal Sonic... HEY! This is just *Sonic* #25 again, isn't it?

The answer is "YES" & "NO"!

Gabriel Cassata did a wonderful job honoring the painterly style of *Sonic CD*'s animations!

RIGHT: The amazing 2-page spread race scene pencilled by Tracy Yardley! I ran around the office and showed everyone when it came in 'cause I was so excited!





LEFT: STH #25's awesome 2-page spread by Patrick Spaziante!

While the original *Sonic CD* adaption was awesome and fun, we decided to stay even closer to the original game this go-around. What did you think? Which issue do you prefer? Let me know! Or don't. The choices are yours and yours alone!

Now if you'll excuse me, I have some Time Stones to find!

– Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor

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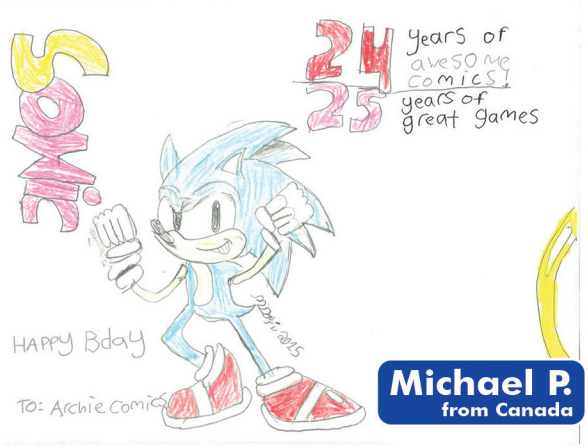

Michael P. from Canada

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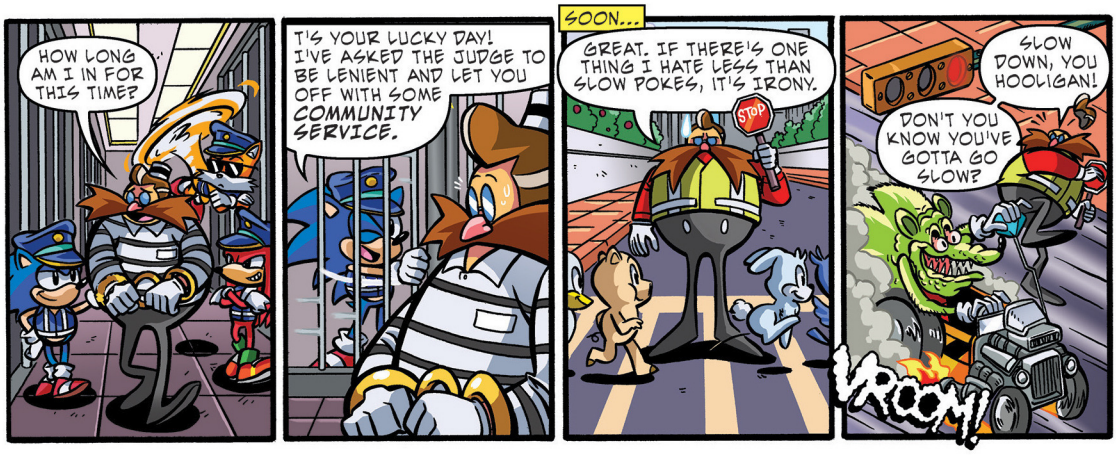
OFF PANEL

- THE ADVENTURES OF - OFFICER SONIC PT. 3 Poetic Justice


HOW LONG AM I IN FOR THIS TIME?
I'S YOUR LUCKY DAY! I'VE ASKED THE JUDGE TO BE LENIENT AND LET YOU OFF WITH SOME COMMUNITY SERVICE.
SOON...
GREAT. IF THERE'S ONE THING I HATE LESS THAN SLOW POKES, IT'S IRONY.
STOP
SLOW DOWN, YOU HOOLIGAN!
DON'T YOU KNOW YOU'VE GOTTA GO SLOW?
VROOM!

SCRIPT: *ERIC ESQUIVEL* PENCILS: *RYAN JAMPOLE* INKS: *PATRICK WOODRUFF* COLORS: *ELAINA UNGER*

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 291

GENESIS OF A HERO FINALE